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**From:** Castro-Valenzuela, Susan@DTSC  
**Sent:** Wed 10/5/2016 1:40:02 AM  
**Subject:** Exide Advisory Group Update - Workforce training – seeking HAZWOPER - certified  
 students

Dear Exide Advisory Group and Community Partners:

We're pleased to share that the Workforce for Environmental Restoration in Communities (WERC) program will be offering additional October trainings starting next week for approximately 15 students. Many of you already played a critical role in identifying community members and local workforce training experts who helped launch the first class of trainees, and in identifying students for this class (see WERC program recap forwarded below). Please see the below information you can forward to any community members who may be interested in the next training.

● The requirements for this October training session are:

- Minimum 18 years old
- HAZWOPER-certified
- Flexible availability for training starting October 10<sup>th</sup> (M-F during the day and/or evenings)

○ Resident of Bell, Commerce, Maywood, Huntington Park, Vernon, unincorporated East Los Angeles, or City of Los Angeles

● If you have any questions about this training opportunity or the WERC Program, please contact Roger Kintz, [roger.kintz@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:roger.kintz@dtsc.ca.gov), (818) 618-9745.

● Interested students should sign up using the following link by October 7<sup>th</sup>: <http://college.lattc.edu/wed/training-registration/>, and contact Michelle Segura at LATTC to confirm your registration, [SeguraMM@lattc.edu](mailto:SeguraMM@lattc.edu), (213) 763-5560.

We thank you for your support and partnership with DTSC's WERC Program,

Best,

Roger

**Roger Kintz**

Senior Environmental Scientist | Environmental Justice Coordinator

Workforce for Environmental Restoration in Communities (WERC) Program Manager

California Environmental Protection Agency

Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)

Office of Environmental Justice (EJ) and Tribal Affairs

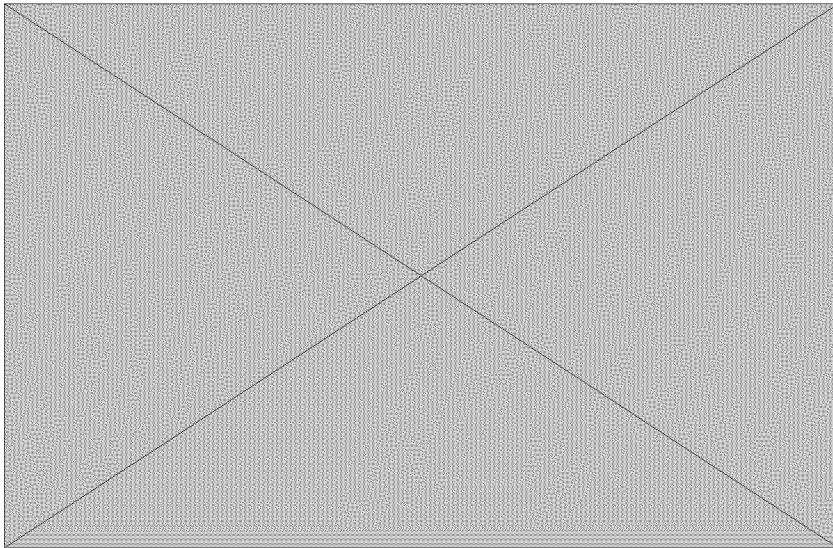
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## **WORKFORCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION IN COMMUNITIES (WERC)**

Thirty-one (31) students graduated August 15th, 2016 in Los Angeles after weeks of training through DTSC's Workforce for Environmental Restoration in Communities (WERC) program.



The DTSC WERC program was launched in July 2016. WERC recruited, trained, and prepared residents who live in the communities impacted by the former Exide Technologies facility in Vernon (Exide facility) for meaningful jobs and new career tracks in the environmental field. Twenty-eight (28) graduates were hired by the two companies, Arcadis Environmental and EFI Global, Inc., that DTSC contracted to work on the Phase I Sampling and Assessment Project of approximately 8,500 properties around the Exide facility.

"We are proud to be developing this program as part of Governor Brown's \$176.6 million plan to sample and clean up the communities surrounding the former Exide facility," said DTSC Director Barbara A. Lee. "The WERC program is training students to help revitalize communities impacted by multiple sources of pollution, and is part of DTSC's commitment to advancing environmental justice."

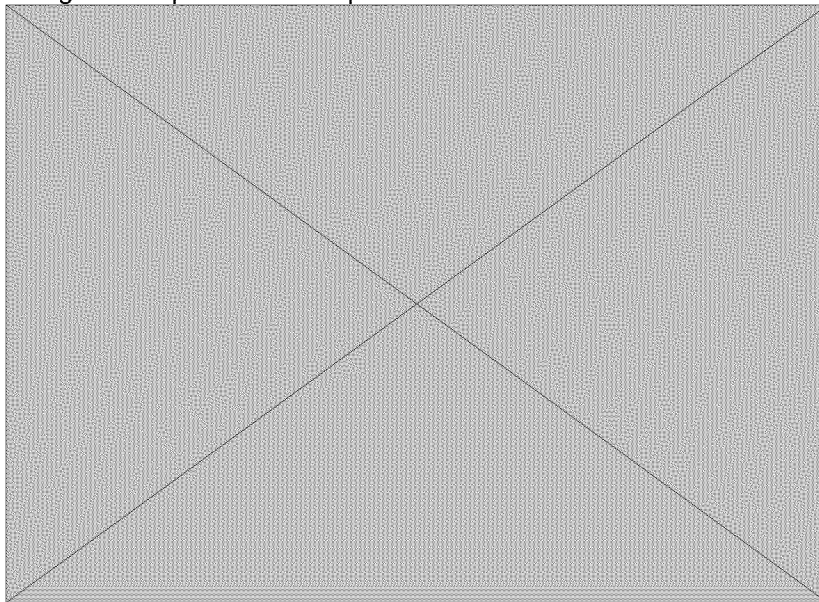
Assembly Majority Whip Miguel Santiago, D-Los Angeles, also praised the program. "I'm thrilled to congratulate the first graduating class of DTSC's WERC program. I know these students worked very hard and are excited to participate in restoring their own communities." Assemblymember Santiago added, "As the state representative for this area and author of AB 118, which authorized this funding, I am proud to see aspects of the program beginning to work."

"This is a great investment for our education," said Elizabeth Ines, a graduate from Boyle Heights.

"It's opening doors to other jobs that I didn't have before ... and I am helping out my community even more by being of service to them."

The WERC program aims to employ trained community residents by promoting the use of local hire requirements for contracting local community residents for jobs that may otherwise be filled by workers from other areas. As part of the program, at least 40 percent of the total hours worked on the Exide project will be performed by residents who live in Maywood, Commerce, Huntington Park, Bell, Vernon, Boyle Heights, and the City of Los Angeles.

DTSC is collaborating with community members and workforce development experts at the Los Angeles Trade-Technical College (LATTC) to enroll students in the WERC program. LATTC provides academic credits, pre-employment training, and student services through registration at the community college. LATTC will continue developing the program with community partners through future public workshops.



WERC training partners include the UCLA Labor Occupational Safety and Health Program, the National Association of Training and Environmental Consulting International, Inc. (NATEC), and Thermo Fisher Scientific. The students are certified as Lead Sampling Technicians by the California Department of Public Health to safely perform lead sampling in their communities. They are also certified in Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standards (HAZWOPER), and received health and safety training through this program.

WERC is funded through the \$176.6 million appropriated by Governor Brown to ensure all residential properties, schools, daycare centers and parks within the 1.7-mile radius of the Exide facility are tested and contaminated soil removed where lead levels are the highest and potential for exposure the greatest.

For more information on the testing and cleanup, please visit [www.dtsc.ca.gov/Exide](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Exide) or contact

Roger Kintz, DTSC WERC Program Manager, at [rkintz@dtsc.ca.gov](mailto:rkintz@dtsc.ca.gov) or 818-618-9745

